Rail link to Shirdi

†1148. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to link Shirdi Ashram through railway line keeping in view the large number of devotees who visit this place every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when Shirdi pilgrimage is likely to be linked through railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction of new line from Puntamba-Shirdi (16.6 kms) at an approx. cost of Rs. 48.78 crore is in progress.

(c) No target date has yet been fixed.

Pending railway projects in Punjab and Maharashtra

1149. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments of Punjab and Maharashtra have requested Central Government for any new train connections and expeditious disposal of pending railway projects in those States:

(b) if so, the details of pending railway projects/new railway lines, State-wise; and

(c) the action Government have taken or propose to take to avoid delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS , (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir. Chief Minister of Maharashtra has requested for train between Mumbai-Patna *via* Jaunpur. This has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

(b) Required information given in the Statement I & II (See below).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) The works are being progressed as per availability of resources. A number of initiatives have been taken to mobilize other than normal budgetary resources to expedite completion of ongoing projects.

Statement-I

The details of new/ongoing/pending rail line projects in the State of Maharashtra

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Project	Km.	Anticipated Cost
New Line			
1.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath	250	353.08
2.	Amravati Narkher	138	284.27
3.	Baramati-Lonad	54	138.48
4.	Panvel-Karjat	28	137.96
5.	Puntamba-Shirdi	16.6	48.78
Gauge conversion			
1.	Akola-Purna	210	245.5
2.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi	285	511.86
3.	Miraj-Latur	374	515.57
4.	Mudkhed-Adilabad	167	199.06
5.	Secunderabad-Mudkhed & Jankhampet-Bodhan	269	287.83
6.	Solapur (Hotgi)-Gadag	300	276.00
Doubling			
1.	Diva-Kalyan	11	48.06
2.	Pakni-Mahol	17	42.73
3.	Pakni-Solapur	16.28	38.52
4.	Panvel-Jasai-JNPT	28.5	53.23

S.No.	Project	Km.	Anticipated Cost
Metropolitan Transport Projects			
1.	Belapur-Panvel doubling of commuter double line as part of East-West corridor	10.9	92.50
2.	Belapur-Seawood-Uran electrified double	22.3 line	163.49
3.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP)	108.8	3125.2
4.	Thane Turbhe Nerul/Vashi part of corridor in New Mumbai	22.5 No. 1	131.37
5.	Thane-Mumbra-Diva 5th and 6th line	6.4	49.34

Statement-II

The details of new/ongoing/pending rail line projects falling partly/fully in Punjab

(Rs. In crore)

S.No.	Project	Km.	Anticipated cost
1.	Abohar-Fazilka	42.72	86.44
2.	Chandigarh-ludhiana	95.0	371.97
3.	Nangal Dam-Talwara and taking over siding of Mukerian-Talwara	112.9	210.00
4.	Taran Taran-Goindwal	21.0	37.51
5.	Beas-Dera Baba Jaimal Singh	5.0	4.06

Timing of Gowtami Express

1150. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will try to adjust the timings of important trains like the Gowtami Express to be useful to air passengers;